

# *The Desert* SUSTAINER

November 17, 2003

*Serving the soldiers of LSA Anaconda and Sustainer Army Airfield*

## Black Hawks crash killing 17 soldiers

**Mosul, Iraq (FOX News) -**

Seventeen American soldiers were killed and another five were wounded in Iraq Saturday after two U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters crashed, the U.S. military said. One soldier remained unaccounted for.

Witnesses said the two aircraft collided in mid-air after sundown. The incident occurred around 6:30 p.m. local time in West Mosul, the military said.

There were reports that one of the Black Hawks was fired at from the ground prior to the crash. One U.S. soldier at the

scene of the crash said he heard that a rocket-propelled grenade struck one of the choppers.

But a U.S. military spokesman said such reports were "at best speculative" and added that the military had no information that anyone opened fire on one of the Black Hawks. A military statement said the cause of the crash was still under investigation.

The two helicopters belonged to the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky, according to the military.

The crash was the worst single loss of life

for American forces since the beginning of the war in Iraq.

Witnesses said the helicopters came down in Borsa, a residential neighborhood in Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city.

"I was leaving the mosque and I heard a boom," said Hani, a witness who only gave his first name. He said two helicopters collided in mid-air before one plunged into the roof of a house. He said he did not know what happened to the other aircraft.

## *Car bombs rock Turkey synagogues on the Sabbath*

**ISTANBUL, Turkey**

**(CNN)** — Turkey's foreign minister says blasts close to two Istanbul synagogues that killed at least 20 people and wounded more than 300 others appear to be a coordinated terror attack with "international links."

Authorities speculate the attacks — which rocked the synagogues as Jewish

worshippers prayed at weekly Sabbath services — were carried out by terrorists from outside the country, possibly al Qaeda.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul said "it looks as if this is a terror attack which has international links." Turkish Interior Minister Abdulkadir Aksu told reporters that "no organization has

claimed responsibility yet" and investigators are "considering every possibility. Any organization could be behind this."

Police investigators said the bombs were similar — both contained potassium chloride and sodium nitrate — and both were packed into station wagons that were parked near the synagogues.

Officials credited tight security

around the buildings for keeping the bombers from inflicting more damage inside the synagogues. Many of the casualties were passers-by.

Outside one of the synagogues, a surveillance camera taped a man parking a station wagon in the street. Moments later, the vehicle exploded.

One bomb detonated about a meter from the Neve Shalom synagogue in the Kuledibi district, police told CNN Turk.

The second car bomb detonated near Istanbul's Beth Israel Synagogue, about three miles away in the Sisli district, and was an equally devastating blast. The bombing was at the rear of the synagogue, and caused structural damage and started fires, which were swiftly extinguished.

There is no tradition of anti-Semitism in Turkey, where there has been a vibrant Jewish community for centuries.

"We were not expecting such a blow because here in Turkey, in Istanbul, in this beautiful city, we have always proved Islam and Judaism can live harmoniously in a peaceful manner, in a co-existence. I do presume that these are coming from outside, not within the country," Alkas said.

Jewish groups have warned of rising anti-Semitism throughout the world, the latest example being recent remarks by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, who said Jews rule the world "by proxy."

"We don't know exactly who the perpetrators are, but I think it's probably not too difficult to guess that one should look in the area of the Islamic fundamentalists," said an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman.



# America to hand over control of Iraq by June

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — American administrators will hand over sovereignty to a new transitional government by June, the Iraqi Governing Council said Saturday, announcing an accelerated U.S. plan for ending the occupation of Iraq.

The plan would mean the end of the U.S.-led coalition administration in Iraq, but not the end of the American troop presence. The new Iraqi government would negotiate an accord on the status of U.S. forces in the country.

The announcement was made following talks between the 23-member council and the chief administrator, L. Paul Bremer, who returned Thursday from Washington after talks with President Bush and senior national security advisers.

Council member Ahmad Chalabi, appearing at a news conference with other

members, said the selection of a transitional government should be completed by May. The government, he said, will be “internationally recognized” and with “full sovereignty.”

Council President Jalal Talabani said the transitional administration would be selected after consultations with “all parties” in Iraqi society.

Council members also said the plans called for a permanent constitution to be drafted and an elected administration chosen by the end of 2005.

Talabani said the new government would negotiate an accord with the U.S. military on American troops’ role in the country after the handover.

“As of now, we will begin a dialogue with occupation authorities on the security matters, but when the transitional government is set up all authorities will be

transferred to this government,” he said.

The new government will be “in charge of security in Iraq, internal security as well as the budget of Iraq and in control of all parts of Iraq. Then no other powers will have authority concerning internal security.”

Speaking to reporters from elsewhere in Baghdad, U.S. lawmakers said Washington wanted to make sure that Iraq has a stable, democratic government.

“We would like to see the transition take place as fast as appropriate,” Rep. David Hobson, R-Ohio, said. “But for Iraq to get back on its feet, the people of Iraq have to do it too.”

“What we must not do is leave prematurely and leave Iraq to civil war and outside interference,” Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said. “Iraq must be a positive member of the international community.”

## LSA ANACONDA SMOKEOUT WEEKEND

### Stomp and Shake Your Butts Dance

Friday at MWR at 8p.m.

### The Butt Strut 5k Walk/Run

Saturday at 7a.m.

### Don't Spit, Take a Dip...in the Pool

races start Saturday at 11a.m.

For more information on the events please contact the MWR office.

The troop medical clinic will be closed on the following days except for emergency - life, limb or eyesight - situations:

Thanksgiving - Thursday, Nov. 27, Christmas - Thursday, Dec. 25, and New Year's - Thursday, Jan. 1. For more information contact Maj. Douglas Olney at 318-528-1413.

No soldier or Department of the Army civilian is permitted to possess, operate or obtain a privately owned vehicle to include a motorcycle or other motorized vehicle. Any POVs in the possession of soldiers and DA civilians will be confiscated by the military police or base operations personnel.

3rd COSCOM Legal Assistance Office is offering a “Mini-SRC” for soldiers needing to obtain a Power of Attorney. Also, if your current Power of Attorney will expire prior to redeployment, you should participate in this SRC. For more information contact the Maj. Susan Bacon at 558-1414 or 318-829-1114.

The Desert Sustainer is a newsletter compiled printed and published by the 3rd Corps Support Command Public Affairs Office. Please send any comments, suggestions, submissions or story ideas to us by email at [scott.slaten@us.army.mil](mailto:scott.slaten@us.army.mil), or call 558-2053, or stop by Bldg. 4137.

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## ATLANTIC

Celtics	—
Nets	5
76ers	5
Wizards	2
Heat	3
Knicks	3
Magic	4.5

## CENTRAL

Pacers	—
Hornets	1
Pistons	2
Bucks	2.5
Raptors	3.5
Bulls	4.5
Cavs	5
Hawks	5



## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## MIDWEST

Rockets	—
Mavericks	1
Grizzlies	1.5
Nuggets	1.5
Spurs	1.5
Jazz	2
T-Wolves	2

## PACIFIC

Lakers	—
Sonics	5
Clippers	1.5
Blazers	2
Kings	2
Warriors	2.5
Suns	4

## James, Ilgauskas lead Cavs over Philly in OT

LeBron James didn't have a problem in his first meeting with Allen Iverson. James outdueled the 76ers' star on Saturday, 91-88. It was the Cavs' first win over the 76ers since James was in ninth grade.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 28 points and had a key putback, assist and block in overtime as the Cavaliers snapped a 16-game losing streak against the Sixers with a 91-88 win Saturday night.

The 7-foot-3 Ilgauskas added eight

rebounds and a career-high seven assists for the Cavs, who hadn't beaten the Sixers since April 2, 1999, at Philadelphia.

Rookie LeBron James had 22 points, eight assists, five rebounds and a huge block with 11 seconds left in overtime for the Cavaliers, who won it with defense down the stretch.

With Cleveland clinging to 90-88 lead, James was caught by a pick in the lane but raced across the floor and swatted away rookie Kyle Korver's jumper from the

baseline.

The Sixers played without their starting frontcourt for the second straight game. Derrick Coleman, Glenn Robinson and Kenny Thomas sat out with injuries.

Iverson, the NBA's leading scorer, matched a season-low with 19 points on 8-of-29 shooting. After leading the Sixers to a win over the defending champion San Antonio Spurs on Friday, Iverson, who was hounded by Ricky Davis, just didn't have it.

### NCAA Men's Basketball Top 20

1. UCONN
2. Duke
3. Michigan St.
4. Arizona
5. Missouri
6. Kansas
7. Syracuse
8. Florida
9. UNC
10. Gonzaga
11. Kentucky
12. Texas
13. Illinois
14. Oklahoma
15. Wisconsin
16. Louisville
17. St. Joe's
18. Cincinnati
19. Stanford
20. Wake Forrest

### National Hockey League

## EASTERN CONFERENCE ATLANTIC

Flyers	24
Devils	22
Islanders	18
Rangers	16
Penguins	11

## NORTHEAST

Bruins	25
Maple Leafs	20
Senators	17
Canadiens	17
Sabres	17

## SOUTHEAST

Lightning	21
Thrashers	18
Panthers	16
Hurricanes	15
Capitals	11

## WESTERN CONFERENCE CENTRAL

Blues	23
Red Wings	20
Black Hawks	17
Predators	15
Blue Jackets	12

## NORTHWEST

Canucks	24
Avalanche	22
Oilers	18
Wild	17
Flames	14

## PACIFIC

Kings	18
Stars	16
Mighty Ducks	16
Coyotes	15
Sharks	15

### NCAA Football Top 15

1. Oklahoma
2. USC
3. LSU
4. Ohio St.
5. Michigan
6. Texas
7. Georgia
8. Washington St.
9. Tennessee
10. TCU
11. Purdue
12. Va. Tech
13. Florida St.
14. Miami (Fla.)
15. Florida

<b>Rams(7-3)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Chiefs(9-1)</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Bears(3-7)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Bengals(5-5)</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Jaguars(2-8)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Redskins(4-6)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Titans(8-2)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Panthers(8-2)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Giants(4-6)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Texans(4-6)</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Eagles(7-3)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Bills(4-6)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cardinals(3-7)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Falcons(2-8)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Browns (4-6)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>Saints(5-5)</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Ravens(5-5)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Chargers(2-8)</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Dolphins(6-4)</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Broncos(6-4)</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Jets(3-7)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Lions(3-7)</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Colts(8-2)</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>Seahawks(7-3)</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Vikings(6-4)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Packers(5-5)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Raiders(3-7)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Buccaneers(4-6)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Cowboys(7-3)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Steelers(3-6)</b>	
<b>Patriots(8-2)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>49ers(4-5)</b>	<b>MON</b>